

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended by the present amendment without introducing new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakamura et al. (herein "Nakamura") in view of Aoki; and Claims 14-21 were indicated as allowed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that Claims 14-21 are allowed.

Claims 1-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as anticipated by Nakamura and Aoki. In light of the ground for rejection, Claim 1 has been amended to recite, among other things, "... a plurality of signal line selection circuits configured to drive a plurality of signal lines, respectively, each of said signal line selection circuits being provided corresponding to each of said plurality of D/A converters." Amended Claim 1 finds support in Figure 5, for example. No new matter is added. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to Claim 1 have overcome the outstanding rejection for the following reasons.

Specifically, according to the present invention, a plurality of signal line selection circuits is provided. Each signal line selection circuit drives a plurality of signal lines in order. Also, the signal line selection circuits are provided corresponding to D/A converters, respectively.

By providing such configuration, it is possible to drive a plurality of signal lines by one signal line selection circuit, and thus it becomes unnecessary to provide first latch circuits, second latch circuits, and D/A converters for each signal line. Therefore, it is possible to simplify the circuit configuration.

On the contrary, the latch circuit of Nakamura is provided for each signal line, and Nakamura neither discloses nor suggests a circuit corresponding to the signal line selection circuits as recited in amended Claim 1.

Further, Aoki discloses a scan-side drive circuit, as shown in Figure 1 of Aoki, for example. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the scan-side drive circuit is a circuit for selecting scanning lines, and that the scan-side drive circuit is not a circuit for selecting signal lines. Accordingly, the scan-side drive circuit is different from the claimed signal line selection circuits. In addition, while Claim 1 recites "... a plurality of signal line selection circuits configured to drive a plurality of signal lines, respectively ...," Aoki discloses only a single scan-side drive circuit, not a plurality thereof driving respective scan lines. Furthermore, the claimed signal line selection circuits are provided corresponding to the D/A converters, respectively. However, Aoki does not disclose or suggest such configuration of the scan-side drive circuit with respect to a D/A converter.

Therefore, even if Nakamura and Aoki are combined, the claimed structure and the advantages thereby obtained are not obviated and amended Claim 1 and each of the claims depending therefrom are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the references of record.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion, and in view of the prior indication of allowed claims and the present amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

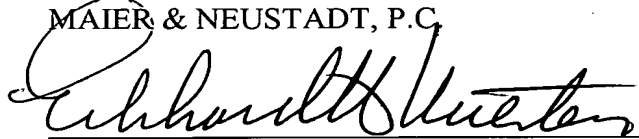
Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eckhard H. Kuesters', is written over a horizontal line.

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